

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 10315 292025Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----093363 301446Z /41

R 291215Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7665  
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 10315

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PDEV RH  
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: VIOLENCE AGAINST UNARMED CIVILIANS

REF: STATE 164007

1. THE KILLINGS AT ELIMA SHOCKED WESTERN SENSIBILITIES IN A WAY THE KILLINGS IN GUTU DID NOT; THEREFORE, WE DO NOT THINK EITHER A FORMAL DEMARCHE OR AN INFORMAL REPRESENTATION ON THE INCREASED VIOLENCE IN RHODESIA WOULD BE HELPFUL AT THIS TIME. AS MUCH AS WE MIGHT WISH OTHERWISE, ALL THE RHODESIA PARTIES WOULD PROBABLY MISINTERPRET OUR MESSAGE.

2. IF, HOWEVER, THERE ARE OVERRIDING REASONS WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAKE THE POINT TO BOTH SIDES OF THE CONFLICT, THEN WE WOULD RECOMMEND THE POINT BE MADE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE GRAHAM/LOW MISSION. IN THEIR CONTACTS WITH ALL THE PARTIES THEY SHOULD STRESS THAT THE  
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VIOLENCE OVER THE LAST TWO MONTHS SIGNALS A BREAKDOWN OF RHODESIAN SOCIETY AND UNDERScores HOW LITTLE TIME REMAINS FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. WE SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE THIS GENERAL POINT IN HIGH LEVEL CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE FRONT LINE AND IN CONTINUED PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF CONDEMNATION.

3. THE FCO DOES NOT PLAN ANY SPECIFIC ACTION RELATED TO THE INCREASE OF VIOLENCE BEYOND OWEN'S PUBLIC DEPLORING OF RECENT CIVILIAN DEATHS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE WEEK. SHADOW FOREIGN SECRETARY JOHN DAVIES, HOWEVER, IS PLANNING A TRIP TO RHODESIA AND THE FRONT LINE IN ORDER TO JUDGE THE SITUATION AND INVESTIGATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE INCREASE IN VIOLENCE. BREWSTER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY PERSONNEL, ALLEGATIONS, CIVIL DISORDERS, LIBERATION FRONTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LONDON10315  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Subject:** RHODESIA: VIOLENCE AGAINST UNARMED CIVILIANS  
**TAGS:** PDEV, RH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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